

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 87**

(Doc. No. jud0033.gfm.doc)

TO:	The Honorable Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Rodney Grizzle, Harry Bell		
DATE:	March 8, 2005	SBD:	2005272

AUTHOR:	Senator McConnell	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	14-7-1110
SUBJECT:	Jury Peremptory Challenges		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

This Bill amends Section 14-7-1110 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to the number of peremptory challenges for defendants and the state in criminal cases, by granting the same number of challenges in juror selection to both the state and the defendants. The Bill also outlines the sharing of juror information between the opposing parties.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Judicial Department and the Prosecution Coordination Commission indicate there will be no fiscal impact to the General Fund of the State, nor on Federal and/or Other Funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

One locality indicated there would be no additional cost. Another indicated a cost but could not provide an estimate. One county estimated additional cost at \$7,500 annually. One larger county estimated total additional cost at approximately \$41,535 including \$30,888 for additional jurors for the jury pool, \$9,955 for temporary staff and \$592 for additional mailing expenses associated with requirements of section 14-7-1122.

Based on the larger county's response total staff cost (temporary or part time) statewide could be estimated at \$105,000. Additional postage assuming mail-out and return envelope is estimated at \$78,200 for 170,000 projected statewide summonses (additional 23 cents per envelope). Statewide copying and envelope cost are estimated at \$37,400 for 170,000 summonses. Therefore, total direct statewide cost for these items could be estimated at \$220,600.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget